

# Occupational Therapy In Elementary Schools

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play is fundamental to the optimal growth and development of children utilizing play therapy with children who require mental health support and intervention is of significant benefit to the child as it allows them to express their needs through play their first language school counselors who work with elementary aged students may find play therapy to be a beneficial component of their comprehensive school counseling program however little is known about the use of play therapy by elementary school counselors the training they have received in play therapy or whether they perceive it as a useful intervention with their elementary aged students this study utilized a one group pretest posttest design to learn about elementary school counselors perceptions of play therapy utility and if providing information about play therapy changed these perceptions participants were a sample of practicing elementary school counselors in the united states n 191 who answered questions about the utility of play therapy both before and after receiving information about play therapy overall participants found play therapy to be useful even before receiving information about it results indicated a statistically significant increase in the rating of play therapy utility after viewing a brief educational video about play therapy these initial perceptions and the increase in perceptions did not vary

significantly based on the community classification or low income status of where an elementary school counselor worked but statistical significances were detected based on the status of their reported training in play therapy implications of the findings and recommendations for future research and practice on this topic including barriers to training in and use of play therapy by school counselors are further discussed

counseling in the elementary school a comprehensive approach presents a current comprehensive overview of the elementary school counselor's role and function this role and function is translated into chapters which describe and illustrate the rationale and activities used to implement a successful counseling and guidance program

this thesis presents a rationale for providing counseling and more specifically child centered play therapy to elementary school children the purpose of this study was to measure the outcomes and evaluate the results of a community based early intervention program that provided child centered play therapy to students in three schools in a rural county in western new york state teacher assessments therapist reports and parent reports were used to measure change in the students involved in the study the importance of early intervention and preventive services is discussed as well as the tenets and benefits of child centered play therapy the results of the 14 students studied demonstrated that child centered play therapy is an effective modality for working with children the author advocates for the implementation of the early intervention program in more schools

this is the first of two writing workbooks which are part of an early learning series for children aged from three to five years the six workbooks aim to help children to develop and practise basic skills in an enjoyable way and also available is a parents guide which provides information about issues in early years education as well as help in monitoring children's progress and preparing them for the first term at school there is progression of learning throughout each workbook and through the series as a whole

this book identifies and addresses the major issues confronting elementary school counseling services today it emphasizes a proactive counseling program with the counselor as part of the educational team

a thorough revision of the essential guide to using play therapy in schools fully updated and revised school based play therapy second edition presents an a to z guide for using play therapy in preschool and elementary school settings coedited by noted experts in the field athena drewes and charles schaefer the second edition offers school counselors psychologists social workers and teachers the latest techniques in developing creative approaches to utilize the therapeutic powers of play in schools the second edition includes coverage on how to implement a play therapy program in school settings play based prevention programs individual play therapy approaches as well as group play and play therapy with special populations such as selectively mute homeless and autistic children in addition nine new chapters have been added with new material covering cognitive behavioral play therapy trauma focused group work training teachers to use play therapy filled with illustrative case studies and ready to use practical techniques and suggestions school based play therapy second edition is an essential resource for all mental health professionals working in schools

the school counselor and related mental health professional is provided with structural curricula for treating twelve specific problem areas of children with step by step guides for planning and conducting therapy over 150 assessment instruments 120 session themes 30 techniques and 150 related resources greatly reduce planning and research time while written primarily for children counselors the book is easily adapted by speech language pathologists art therapists and for training the beginning therapist the book targets children at risk with emotional problems but covers secondary difficulties physical handicaps neurological impairments learning disabilities hyperactivity mental retardation or a combination of these

art has the power to heal people who have emotional problems and it can be a way of healing on occasion children who have witnessed violence and been abused may have difficulty in speaking out loud about their experiences and feelings art therapy can encourage them to restore emotional abilities they could not express in this project buddy's journey i tried to improve diverse tools such as recognition of color and game playing by

using the computer i created a few characters like buddy and the butterflies in order to encourage the child to understand and use intimate tools this project may support not only the children to improve their ability to express their feelings but also the teacher who wants to know the concept of art therapy to understand the approach methods abstract

elementary school counselors are being faced with the dilemma of how to counsel certain children within the school since many elementary school children do not come to counseling ready to work on a concern nor are able to relate their feelings on a verbal level a different approach is needed to work with them the purpose of this paper is to explore and examine the nature of play and what has been reported in the area of play therapy based upon the findings in these two areas and upon the expressed feelings of elementary school counselors a rationale will be developed for the use of play materials in elementary school counseling leaf 3

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